

**William J. Williams House**  
**HA 1911**

This two story frame house is located on the uphill, east side of Main Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland. It was most likely constructed by William J. Williams, a Welshman, during the last decade of the nineteenth century on a town lot that was provided by Margaret Parry. A popular house style for this turn-of-the-century town, this house is three bays wide and two bays deep, with a centered cross gable with returns projecting from the gable roof. As with the majority of structures built in this slate quarrying town during the late nineteenth century boom-era, the house is roofed in hand-dressed slate shingles and the foundation is of coursed slate.

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HA 1911

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common William J. Williams House

**2. Location**

street & number 1623 Main Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Cardiff

vicinity of

congressional district 5th

state Maryland

county Harford

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Cynthia M. Smith Connaghan

street & number same

telephone no.: (410) 452-8443

city, town Cardiff

state and zip code Maryland, 21024

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse

liber CGH 2057

street & number 20 W. Courtland Pl.

folio 764

city, town Bel Air

state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title none

date    federal    state    county    local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. HA 1911

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This two story frame house is located on the uphill, east side of Main Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland. A popular house style for this turn-of-the-century town, this house is three bays wide and two bays deep, with a centered cross gable with returns projects from the slate gable roof. A shallow service ell projects from the southern end of the rear elevation. As with the majority of structures in this town and unique to this slate quarrying region, the foundation is of coursed slate. The entrance located at the north bay of the first story main facade is porticoed and has two short stringers of stairs leading to it. A granite wall retains the slope of the front yard.

Aside from the north entrance, the west main facade has long 1/1 sash windows in the middle and right bays and three shorter aligned windows in the upper bays. A small window is centered at the cross gable. Multi-light transom, sidelights, and portico with turned posts and balustrade lend decoration to the main entrance.

The right gable end has a two story three bay projecting window towards the rear of the house, and single 1/1 windows located in the upper forward part of the main house and centered at the gable. The left gable end has upper and lower story windows to the rear portion of this side and one centered at the gable. The rear wall of the main house has a double window in the upper story. The shallow service ell has a secondary entrance and window at the rear gable and windows on the south side.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. HA 1911

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This two story frame house was most likely constructed by William J. Williams, a Welshman, during the last decade of the nineteenth century on a town lot that was provided by Margaret Parry. After Margaret's husband, Richard, was killed, the seventeen acre farm that he acquired from his father, John Parry Sr., was subdivided, supplying lots for the growing town of Cardiff. Most of the land was sold to the South Delta Land Company for subdivision, however, Margaret Parry kept a 200' by 159' parcel that she herself divided into three town lots. This is the middle lot of the three.

This two story, three bay house with cross gable was a common design throughout Cardiff. The house is representative of the transition era of late Victorian neo-classicism, with numerous large windows, such as the two-story bay, but dwindling decoration. The majority of the homes in Cardiff were built during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a boom-era for this slate quarrying reegion. As with the majority of structures, the house is roofed in hand-dressed slate shingles and the foundation is of coursed slate.

The village of Cardiff developed on the patented land tract of Thomas Hawkins called "Hawkins Chance". The 74 acre parcel was divided and sold by the Hawkins family to Welsh immigrants in the mid-eighteen hundreds for the purpose of slate quarrying and settlement. The town developed in a linear pattern along Main and Chestnut Streets from its early center at Slate Ridge/Green Marble Road, blending with its sister towns of Whiteford to the south and Delta, Pa.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA 1911

See attached sheets

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .172 acresQuadrangle name DeltaQuadrangle scale 24000UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 120, Tax Map 5

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>none</u>	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dianne Klairorganization Harford County Planning and Zoning date March 1996street & number 220 S. Main Street telephone (410)638-3103city or town Bel Air state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
814-7600

HA 1911

# WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS HOUSE

## Title Search

CGH 2057/764	September 3, 1993	Grantor: Richard C. and Mary M. Smith Grantee: Cynthia M. Smith Connaghan (daughter) Granted: town lot fronting east side of Main Street 50' by 159' with improvements
GRG 572/39	May 3, 1961	Grantor: Gloria R. and Mervyn G. Thompson Grantee: Richard C. and Mary Smith Granted: same
GRG 366/325	December 1, 1951	Grantor: Ernest W. and Beulah T. Roberts Grantee: Gloria R. (daughter) and Mervyn G. Thompson Granted: same, part of real estate devised to Ernest W. Roberts in will of Robert L. Roberts, his father, May 27, 1940. Will Records ALG 21/180.
GCB 271/159	February 6, 1942	Grantor: Blodwen R. Harvey and husband Grantee: Robert L. Roberts Granted: same
MEWR 253/387	December 10, 1938	Grantor: Philip H. Close, Attorney (as named in mortgage from Robert L. Roberts to Fireside Permanent Building Association, June 25, 1930, DGW 217/118, upon which Roberts defaulted.) Grantee: Blodwen Harvey Granted: same
JAR 169/96	March 26, 1920	Grantor: William J. Williams, widower Grantee: Robert L. Roberts Granted: same
ALJ 70/338	May 6, 1891	Grantor: Margaret Parry, widow of Richard Parry Grantee: William J. Williams Granted: parcel/town lot of 50' by 159'
ALJ 71/104	May 9, 1891	Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams, (trustee, as appointed in Equity Case WSF 41/351 Elizabeth J. Parry, daughter of Richard Parry v. Margaret Parry et al.) Grantee: Margaret Parry Granted: 200' by 159' parcel on east side of [Main Street], as part of lands described in equity case (less than 19 acres) to be subdivided into town building lots.
Plat book DGW 2/64	1891	Survey plat of lots to be subdivided, South Delta Land Company.

Will Records WS 10/440	September 12, 1888	John Parry, quarryman, bequeaths: To his daughter, Elizabeth, the house in which he resides and the 84' by 400' lot on which it stands. To his son, Richard Parry, all his remaining lands, approximately 17 acres To each of his children, Mary Williams, John, Richard, Jacob, and Elizabeth Parry 1/6 of his shares in the Welsh Slate Company of Harford County.
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Hugh E. Hughes Grantee: John Parry Granted: 10 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$1050.00
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Humphrey R. and Jane H. Lloyd Grantee: John Parry Granted: 2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" with improvements, on west side of Main St. (same as ALJ 25/346) for \$1200.00
ALJ 25/346	April 11, 1871	Grantor: Richard Hughes and wife Grantee: Jane H. Lloyd (daughter) Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch (see ALJ 9/29)
ALJ 9/30	May 29, 1857	Grantor: Richard Hughes et al. Grantee: John and Ellin Parry Granted: 8 acres 35 perches of "Hawkins Chance" for \$500.00
ALJ 9/29	May 29, 1857	Grantor: John Parry Grantee: Richard Hughes Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch
HDG 36/424	July 27, 1850	Grantor: Ro(w)land and Anne Parry Grantee: John Parry and Richard Hughes Granted: 3 1/2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$350.00
HDG 36/215	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Rowland Perry Grantee: John Perry and Richard Hughes Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$600.00
HDG 36/214 (indenture)	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Benjamin Williams Grantee: John Perry et al. Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$200.00

HDG 36/212	January 22, 1850	Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins Grantee: Rowland Perry (Parry) Granted: part of "Hawkins Chance" for \$850.00, acreage unknown
HDG 34/492	February 9, 1849	Grantor: Edward Proctor et al. Grantee: Archibald A. Hawkins Granted: "Hawkins Chance", being part of Thomas Hawkins landholdings; 74 acres 5 perches
HD 14/336	August 3, 1831	Grantor: Isaac Hawkins, heir to Thomas Hawkins Grantee: Thomas Proctor, heir to Edward Proctor Granted: The eighth part of land tracts "Hawkins Chance", "Williams Birthright", Mount Pleasant", and Montgomerys Delight". The four tracts contain 188 acres total. No mention of "eighth part" acreage.
Land Tract, Patented	After March 1774, when Harford est.	"Hawkins Chance", tract of 74 acres 5 perches granted to Thomas Hawkins. Located on the Maryland and Pennsylvania line at the north end of present day Cardiff. Divided, sold, and reworked often.



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

History of York County, Gibson. 1880.

Conversation with Mrs. Darcy Lloyd, April 11, 1995.

Coversations with Ronald and Vera Ingool, March 17 and April 20, 1995

Conversations with Mrs. Marion Scaborough, June 20, June 22, July 25, and August 1, 1995 regarding Parry family history.

Our Harford Heritage, C. Milton Wright. 1967.

Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley, John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer. 1989.

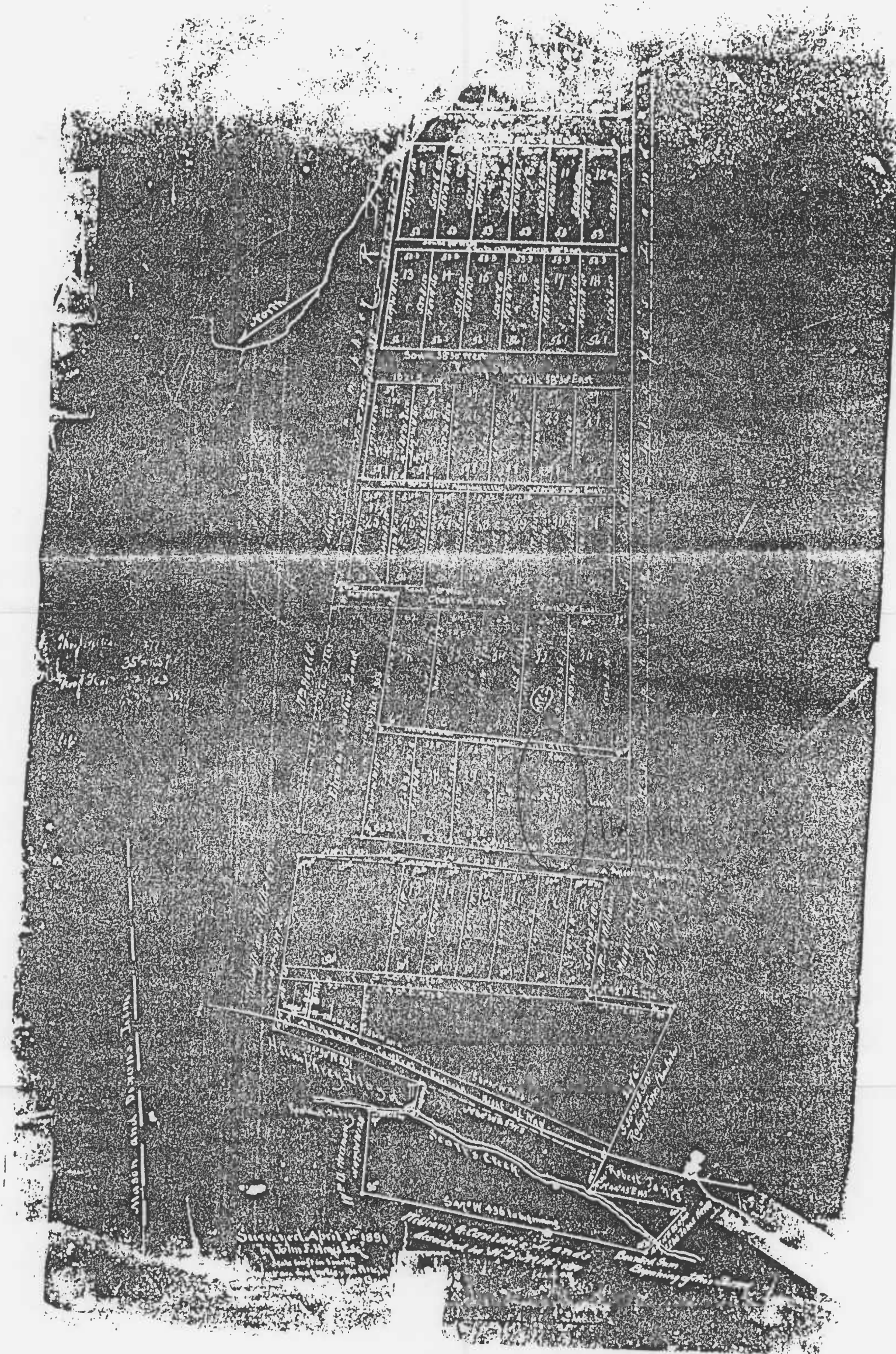
Land Records, Harford County Courthouse.

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.

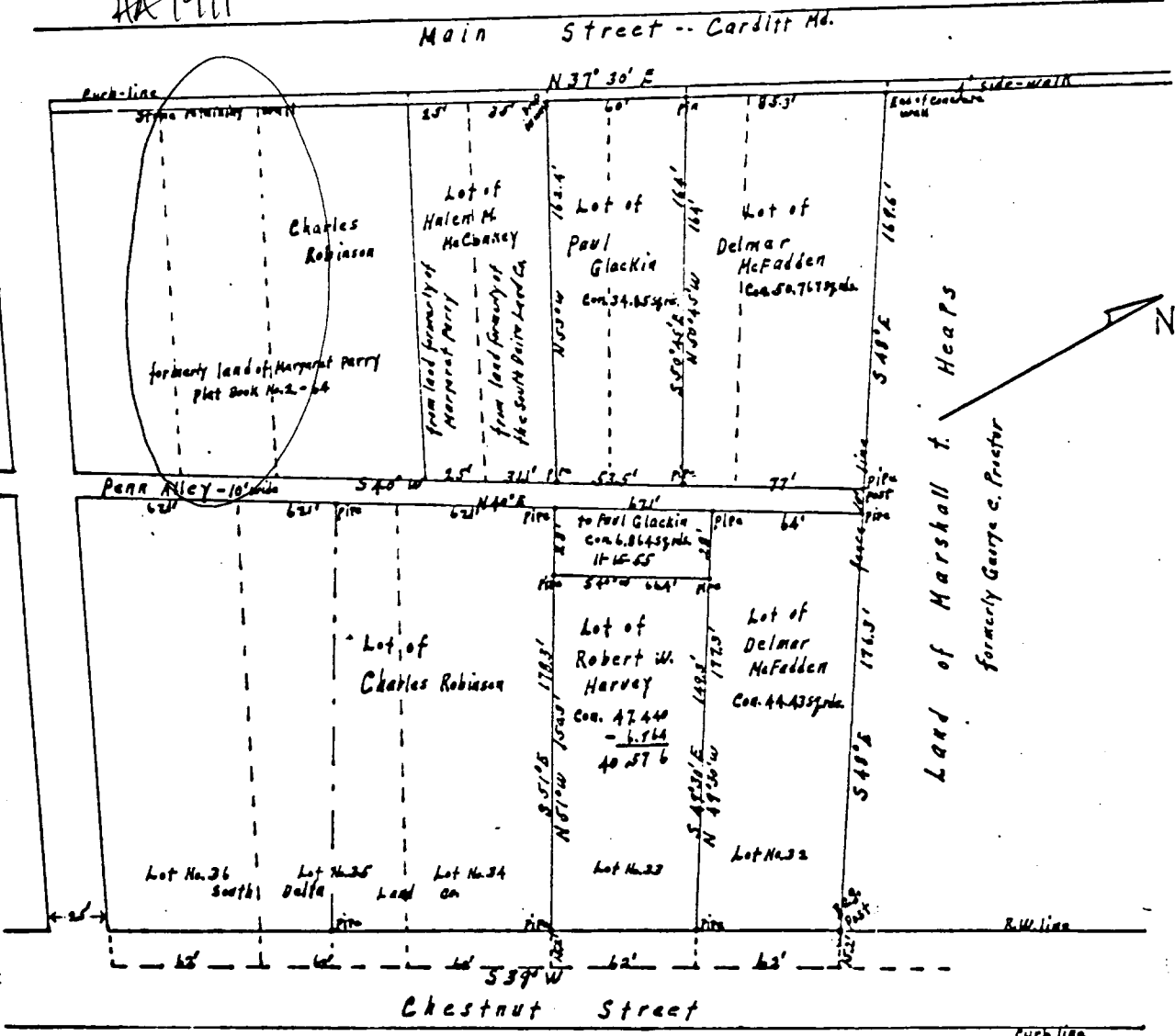
PLAT of SOUTH DELTA LAND COMPANY

1891



HA-1911

HA 1911



Scale 50' = 1" 1" = 50'

David R. Wilson  
Surveyor  
Bridgeton Pa.

Plat showing lots of the (all) Smith Delta land as surveyed in 1914 rec'd in Harford Co. land records  
Plat Book No. 2, Page 4 and specifically showing the lots owned by Delmar McFadden & wife located between Main St. and Chestnut St. Cardiff - Fifth Election Dist. of Harford Co. Md. Surveyed Nov. 15, 1955 D.R.W.

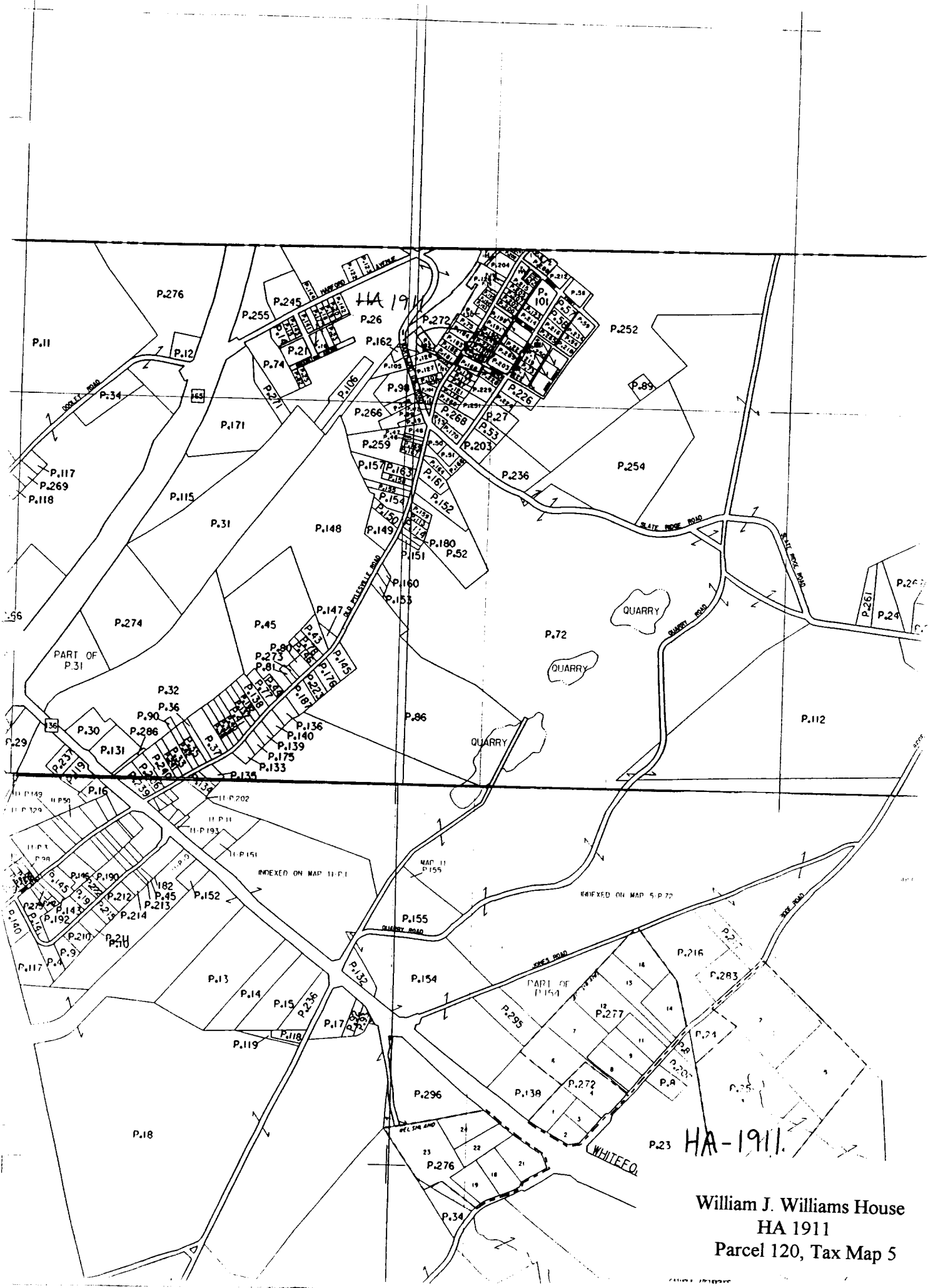
REC'D & RECORDED NO. 1045

FOLIO 52

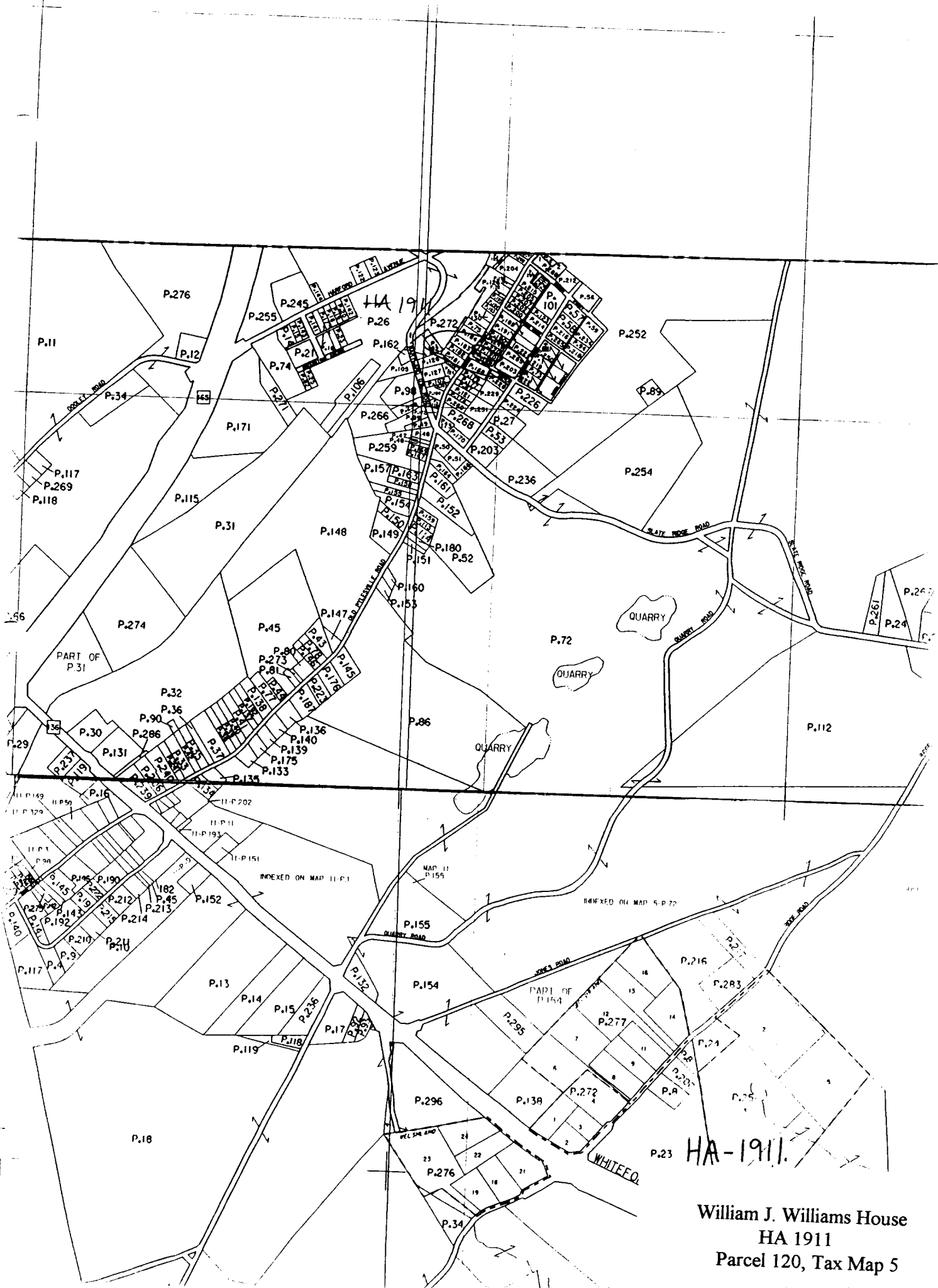
OCT 24 1 15 PM '77

HARFORD CO.  
H. DOUGLAS CHILCOAT  
CLERK

LIBER 1045 PAGE 54



William J. Williams House  
HA 1911  
Parcel 120, Tax Map 5



150 000 FEET  
(PA.)

4399

4398

33

PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

32

YORK CO  
HARFORD CO

HA 1911

Cardiff

Whiteford

WHEELER

SCHOOL ROAD  
RAILROAD

Pylesville

BM  
358

5763 III NW  
(FAWN GROVE)

374

RIDGE

HARFORD COUNTY  
USGS Delta Quadrangle  
1 : 24000  
William J. Williams House  
HA 1911





HA 1910

St. Michael's Millman's House  
Staggs County, Maryland  
Dianne Klein

April 1995

Maryland SHPO

Via east from Main Street

1/1